A NEW SPECIES OF HYPHANTUS, A SYNONYM, AND VARIOUS NOTES (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE: OTIORHYNCHINAE)

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The 35 species of the South American otiorhynchid genus of flightless weevils *(Hyphantus* Germar) are ant-like in appearance, with long, thin legs and antennae; short, stout beaks; subocular vibrissae but no subocular lobe; petiolate, globose thorax; convex, declivous elytra, and tubercular surface. Males of some species and females of others have marked secondary sexual characters.

The new species described below is named in honor of the coleopterist, Johann E. Faust (1832-1903), who wrote on the Curculionidae of many parts of the world and who evidently had intended to describe the present species. I am grateful to Dr. Rolf Hertel, of the Museum für Tierkunde in Dresden, for lending me Faust's original specimens and for checking the fact that Faust's manuscript name was a *nomen nudum.*

Hyphantus fausti Vaurie, NEW SPECIES (FIGS. 1-5)

Holotype, male, Blumenau [Santa Catarina, Brasil], collected by Reitter, and a female paratype, with same data, in collection of Staatliches Museum für Tierkunde, Dresden; a male paratype with same data, and a female from "Brasil" in collection of the American Museum of Natural History.

Diagnosis: Differing from other species by having thorn-like spine on inner edge of hind tibiae in males, and slight thickening in the same spot in females, and also by having a projection in the males on the inner apical angle of the hind tibiae (figs. 3, 4). Aside from secondary sexual characters, this new species resembles *hustachei* Vaurie, *minutus* Vaurie, and *subminutus* Vaurie, having about the same shape, tuberculation, and vestiture of the pronotum and elytra (figs. 1, 2) as those species; the new species also has the same aedeagus (fig. 3) as does *hustachei.*

Description of Holotype, Male: Length, 6.5 mm. Beak, dorsal view, about twice length of eye; feebly tricarinate; apical V-shaped plaque distinctly elevated, feebly concave within; surface rugose; base transversely sulcate; in profile of same thickness throughout. Antennae with first segment of funicle scarcely longer than second, second twice as long as third, third slightly longer than each of following segments; scrobes broad, reaching vaguely to eye. Eyes bulbous. Head rugose.

Pronotum about as wide as long, more than one-half of length of elytra, sides strongly arcuate; tubercles convex, round, subcontiguous, approximately 16 to 20 across disc at its widest part; a few fine hairs, as well as coarse setae of tubercles. Elytra at widest part wider than pronotum, with scattered fine hairs, especially on declivity; sides subparallel to declivity, thence convergent to rounded-truncate apex; tubercles on alternate rows larger than those on pronotum, widely separated longitudinally by three or four times their diameters; true tubercles lacking on other rows, but front edge of strial punctures slightly tumid; profile of elytra rather evenly arcuate but slope of declivity steeper and longer than slope of base.

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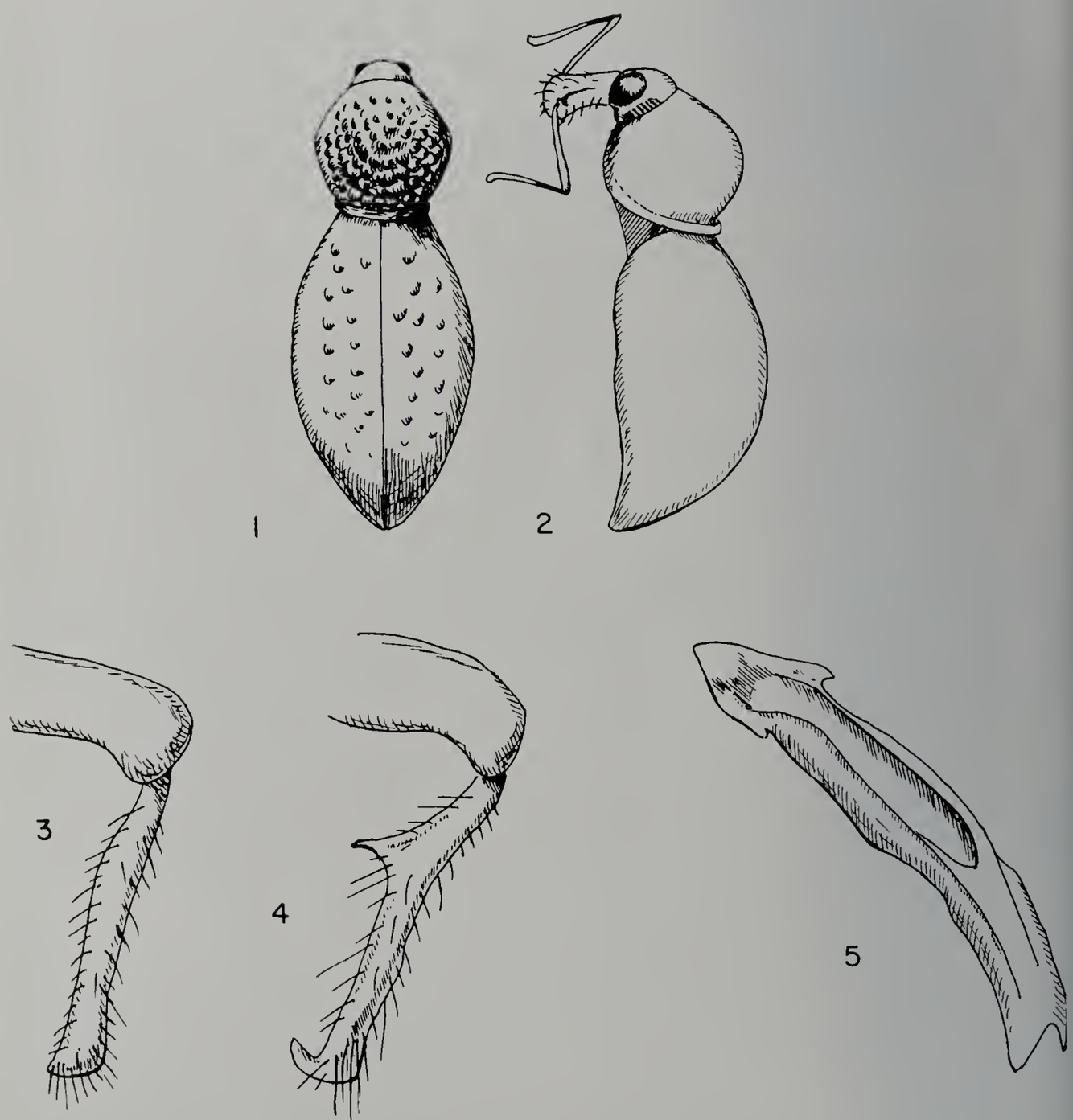
Front femora bulbous, minutely toothed within near apex; front tibiae slightly sinuate within, incurved at apex; middle tibiae straight; hind tibiae near base bent inward on outer side and with thorn-shaped tooth on inner side, inner apex also with thorn-like projection. Abdomen with first and second segments separated by feebly impressed line, other segments by wider, deeper sulci, segments not notably bulbous, second segment longer than either third or fourth, fourth arcuate at sides, fifth as long as three preceding segments combined, apex emarginate. Aedeagus acuminate at apex, sides incised, dorsal orifice long (fig. 5).

Variations from holotype: Females lack the spine and the apical projections of the hind tibiae, but have a slight sinuation on the inner side where the spine of the male would be; females have the elytra proportionately wider and shorter than do males. Some paratypes differ slightly by being smaller (6 mm.), by having the rostral carinae or the scrobes of the antennae more distinct, by having more hairs on the pronotum or elytra, or the pronotal tubercles closer together.



FIGURES 1-5, *Hyphantus fausti* Vaurie, new species. 1—Dorsal view. 2—Lateral view. 3—Hind tibia, female. 4—Hind tibia, male. 5—Aedeagus, three-quarter view.

Remarks: This species belongs with the seven species of the *argentinensis* group. In my key to the species (Vaurie, 1963, p. 254) it could be placed after couplet 18; the couplet containing the new species then reading:

Hind tibiae of males with thorn-like spine on inner side, of females with feeble sinuation in same area . . . . . *fausti*

Hind tibiae of both sexes straight . . . . . .

Although this is the only species in which the hind tibiae are toothed in males, the middle tibiae are toothed in males of *hustachei* Vaurie, and the front tibiae in males of *longicauda* Vaurie; the hind femora are toothed in males of *sulcifrons* Boheman and *simulans* Vaurie.

New Synonymy and Distribution

Several items of interest have been found in additional material received after publication of my revision of the genus. This material includes about 230 specimens from the collections of the Departamento de Zoologia, São Paulo, and of the Museum Frey, Munich, through the courtesy, respectively, of Padre F. Pereira and Dr. E. Haaf, 30 specimens from Padre P. Buck, Colegio Anchieta, Rio Grande do Sul, and nine from the United States National Museum, through Mrs. T. J. Spilman. The species are listed below. All page numbers in parentheses refer to my revision (Vaurie, 1963).

Hyphantus longicauda Vaurie (1963, p. 295)=*Hyphantus lanceolatus* Vaurie (1963, p. 297). [NEW SYNONYMY.] In my revision *(loc. cit.)* I suggested that *lanceolatus,* of which I had three males (the type from Rio de Janeiro, one paratype from São Paulo, one from Nova Petrópolis, Rio Grande do Sul) might prove to be the male of the unique type of *longicauda* (São Leopoldo, Rio Grande do Sul). Two males and two females recently received from Padre Buck seem to show that this is so, that there is but one strongly dimorphic species, in which males have a thorn-like spine within the front tibiae, and females have very long, paired, tubular projections or "tails" on the sutural declivity of the elytra. The new specimens are from the state of Rio Grande do Sul, a male from the type locality of *longicauda,* and a male and two females from São Salvador, about 50 kilometers northwest of São Leopoldo. One of the females was taken on April 7, 1960, the other female and the male on the same date, December 7, 1962. The locality of one of the paratypes of *"lanceolatus,"* Nova Petrópolis, is in the same vicinity. All these localities are not far from Porto Alegre.

The aedeagus of the two males from Rio Grande do Sul resembles the aedeagus illustrated for the paratype of *"lanceolatus"* from the same state (p. 300); it is not quite like that of the type of *"lanceolatus,"* but I believe now that the difference is explicable by individual variation and the larger size of the southern specimens from Rio Grande do Sul.

Hyphantus angulatus Vaurie. The type locality of this species was given as Tainhas, Rio Grande do Sul (p. 282), from notations by G. Bondar, but Padre P. Buck, who sent the specimens to Bondar, writes me that all the insects given as coming from this town were actually collected at

Taimbezinho, which is slightly to the northeast of Tainhas. The locality of two of my paratypes, which seemed to read "Jaimbé," should be, according to Padre Buck, Taimbé, an abbreviation of Taimbezinho. Two additional males examined from Padre Buck's collection are from São Francisco de Paula, not far from Taimbezinho.

Hyphantus argentinensis Hustache, which I stated (p. 290) was the only species not found in Brazil, does occur there, as shown by 25 males and one female (in the Frey Museum), from Itapera, São Paulo, collected January, 1959, by K. Hudepohl, and by four males and two females from Osorio, Rio Grande do Sul, January, 1958, from Padre Buck's collection.

Hyphantus carinatus Vaurie, previously recorded from the state of São Paulo only, is represented in the new material by specimens from farther south (Curitiba, Paraná, and Rio Grande do Sul at Teresópolis near Porto Alegre). Although the apex of the aedeagus in three of these specimens is of the characteristic shape as illustrated by me (1963, fig. 74), the "carinate" part behind the dorsal orifice is not carinate, probably because the sides behind the orifice are spread open by the intruding inner tube, thus obliterating the carina.

Hyphantus distinguendus Desbrochers des Loges, of which I had seen specimens from the states of Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Santa Catarina, is found also in some of the states within this range: Minas Gerais (Porto Alegre), and Paraná (Curitiba).

Hyphantus hustachei Vaurie. A male from the collection of the United States National Museum, taken in March, 1935, by D. Cochran, at Lassance, Minas Gerais, extends the range of the species far to the north (Lassance is about 160 miles northwest of Belo Horizonte). Previous records (39 specimens) are from Santa Catarina and Paraná in southern Brazil, from Paraguay, and northern Argentina.

Hyphantus matronalis Vaurie, known only from the female type and paratype (region of Rio de Janeiro), is represented by two additional females collected by Alvarenga, December, 1956, at Floresta da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro.

Hyphantus serpentis Vaurie, recorded by me from the state of Rio de Janeiro only, was collected by Hudepohl at the same locality and on the same date as *carinatus* (Teresópolis, Rio Grande do Sul, March 3, 1962). These specimens (five males) were dissected, as the aedeagus is the only certain distinguishing character between *serpentis* and *carinatus*.

Hyphantus sulcifrons Boheman, one of the most abundant species of the genus, ranging from Uruguay and Buenos Aires north to Paraná in southern Brazil, is here recorded from slightly farther north, at Itapera, São Paulo (four males and five females, January, 1959, collected by Hudepohl).

Two Corrections

Dr. E. Haaf wrote to me that the notations "G. Barb. Frey" on the labels of many specimens of *Hyphantus* in the Frey Museum, which ap-

peared in my revision between quotation marks, refer to the collectors, George Frey and Barbara Frey.

Mr. Hans Reichardt, who collected many of the specimens of *Hyphantus* which I used in the revisional study, writes me that one of the localities (Diadema) that I could not find is a rather new place near São Paulo, about 10 kilometers in the direction of Santos.

Literature Cited

Vaurie, P.

1963. A revision of the South American genus *Hyphantus* (Coleoptera, Curculionidae, Otiorhynchinae). Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 125(4):241-304, figs. 1-91.

CURRENT RESEARCH PROGRAMS

These announcements of research underway on beetles are not meant to be requests for specimens or information unless stated to the contrary; a letter to the researcher will determine whether or not specimens or information are wanted. All research workers are invited to send notices of research in progress to the Editor.

AQUATICS: Study of the water beetles of North Dakota. By Robert Gordon, Dept. of Entomology, North Dakota State Univ., Fargo, N. D.

CHRYSOMELIDAE: Natural history of *Oulema melanopa*. By Thomas Castro, Dept. of Entomology, Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, Mich.

CURCULIONIDAE: Study of the weevils of North Dakota. By David Aarhus, Dept. of Entomology, North Dakota State Univ., Fargo, N. D.

MELOIDAE: Revision of *Pyrota* and allied genera and a comparative study of meloid sexual behavior. (Interested in obtaining live material for the latter study.) By Richard B. Selander, Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

STAPHYLINIDAE: Field and taxonomic studies of Euasthetinae and Pygostenini. By D. H. Kistner, Chico State College, Chico, California.